

RESTRICTION PRESENTED

The claims have been restricted into the following groups of inventions:

| Groups | Claims | Subject Matter |
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| I | 1-35 (in part) | A method of inhibiting expression of a hypoxia induced gene in a cell comprising introducing a RNA into the cell to inhibit expression of the hypoxia inducible gene, wherein the gene is HIF-1 α and comprises <u>SEQ ID NO: 1</u> ; |
| II | 1-35 (in part) | A method of inhibiting expression of a hypoxia induced gene in a cell comprising introducing a RNA into the cell to inhibit expression of the hypoxia inducible gene, wherein the gene is HIF-1 α and comprises <u>SEQ ID NO: 3</u> ; |
| III | 36-63 (in part) | A siRNA molecule that downregulates expression of HIF-1 α by RNA interference, wherein the sense region comprises a contiguous sequence of <u>SEQ ID NO: 1</u> ; and |
| IV | 36-63 (in part) | A siRNA molecule that downregulates expression of HIF-1 α by RNA interference, wherein the sense region comprises a contiguous sequence of <u>SEQ ID NO: 3</u> . |

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (hereinafter "the Patent Office") has also presented a species election related to the routes of administration recited in claims 27 and 35.

APPLICANTS' ELECTION

Applicants hereby elect the invention of Group III, claims 36-63 (in part), drawn to siRNA molecules that downregulate expression of HIF-1 α by RNA interference, wherein the sense region comprises a contiguous sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1, for prosecution at this time.